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ORIGINAL

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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ETHIOPIA

PRAGUE INTERVIEWS FINANCE MINISTER ON CRISIS

LD242310Y Prague in English to Africa 1730 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpts] Earlier this afternoon Czechoslovakia's foreign trade minister, Andrej Barcak, joined visiting Ethiopian Minister of Finance Teferra Wolde Semayet in signing two documents on economic cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Ethiopia. After the signing ceremony our reporter, (Jan Vozak), had the opportunity of discussing the documents with the Ethiopian ministers: [begin recording]

[Vozak] Mr Minister, you have just signed with the foreign trade minister an economic agreement between Ethiopia and Czechoslovakia. Could you briefly outline the content of the agreement and the purpose of the agreement?

[Teferra] Well, very briefly, the agreements, one is for a project which we have already identified and agreed upon and therefore the project and the implementation will be very rapid. We have already done the necessary studies and all that remains for it is the importation of capital goods.

Now the other trade agreement is for, again, industrial projects. We are still working on these projects. We will be mutually agreeing on the projects as soon as we complete the studies. We would communicate to Czechoslovakia and, having agreed on both sides, we would go into the implementation. Here the projects would be primarily industrial development and the projects would be in areas where Czechoslovakia has the experience and has the technology.

[Question] Has any concrete field been discussed during the negotiations here?

[Answer] Well, we have discussed in general terms, and back at home we are also working on various projects. Some of these projects include textiles, expansion of textile plants [samgouri] and a number of other projects which we are still working on. In fact, some of the industrial plants in Addis Ababa have been supported by Czechoslovakia. They are very well known. That is why I say that Czechoslovakia has already the experience in industrial areas and we, of course, are grateful for this assistance and will be, in addition, to the already existing cooperation in industrial areas.

The commitment of Czechoslovakia is very explicit and we fully appreciate the support, particularly at this critical hour of our revolution. As you know, we are fighting a war at the same time we are carrying out a revolution. We are fighting against internal reactionary forces. The support that we are getting from fraternal socialist countries such as Czechoslovakia is very much appreciated, so I have been very much encouraged during our discussions here and our negotiations.

[Question] Mr Minister, this brings me to another question which is perhaps not directly related with the things you have actually talked about thus far, and that concerns the current situation in the Horn of Africa. Could you comment briefly on the present situation as it has developed over the recent weeks?

[Answer] Well, I am a bit out of date--by 1 week in a way--but the situation generally is very grave indeed. As you know, we are trying to defend our territorial integrity. There has been a naked aggression of Somalia, of course, supported by imperialist forces and reactionary Arab regimes in the neighboring area. We are trying to defend. Ethiopia has no ambitions for territorial expansion, but at the same time we are fighting to the last inch to defend our country.

But the current situation is that Somalia, having lost in all diplomatic areas, including at the United Nations and at the Organization of African Unity, in past months is now trying to fabricate stories. In fact it is very clear Somalia is trying to internationalize the situation and by so doing to sound out, or to encourage, the imperialist forces who have been supporting it to intervene. I think this is the idea. The idea is to internationalize the situation.

But on our part we are, as I said, trying to defend, and of course we have the support of all socialist countries and in fact all progressive countries. We are consistently working in accordance with the charters of the OAU and the UN. We have the legitimate right to defend ourselves, but Somalia is trying internationalize and by so doing seeks direct intervention of the imperialist forces.

[Vozak] Thank you very much. I thank you very much indeed. Thank you. [end recording]

Envoys Return From Visit

LD250430Y Addis Ababa in Amharic for Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Second Lt Gesesse Wolde Kidan, permanent member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in charge of economic affairs and leader of the Ethiopian delegation to Czechoslovakia, returned today after a 1-week official visit. He said on arrival that he had delivered a message to President Husak and added that his mission had been successful.

DEPUTY MINISTER, IN ROME, SCORES FRG, WEST

LD231828Y Rome Domestic Service in Italian 1600 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Ethiopian deputy minister of foreign affairs has made a brief stopover in Rome. In a press conference given in the Ethiopian Embassy, he accused Federal Germany of forming an alliance with Somalia and supplying arms and equipment to that country which, in his view, is guilty of a veritable aggression within the framework of an international plot allegedly aimed at dismembering Ethiopia.

He also criticized the recent meeting held in Washington which discussed the situation in the Horn of Africa--a meeting which was attended by representatives of various Western countries, including Italy.

EMBASSY IN BELGRADE DENIES FIGHTING IN HARAR

AU251128Y Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 25 Jan 78 AU

[Text] The Ethiopian Embassy in Belgrade has denied reports of advances by Somali troops in Ogaden. The Ethiopian Embassy statement points out that there is no fighting in Harar, a strategically important center in the Ogaden Province, and that the town is calm.

LOCAL PEOPLE WANT TO MAN HARARGE DEFENSE LINES

LD241150Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The people of the Hararge Administrative Region have urged the government to permit them to man the region's defense lines and so relieve the regular and militia forces of the responsibility and allow them to devote all their efforts to beating off the enemy.

The request was made at a mass rally held in the town of Harar last Saturday, 21 January. The rally was organized by the people of the Hararge Region through representatives of the region's 13 districts and of Harar's 19 urban dwellers and youth associations.

The request was addressed to Lt Col Zeleke Beyene, PMAC member permanently assigned to the Hararge Administrative Region, and Comdr Lemma Guetema, Hararge regional administrator, who told the rally that the government would be briefed on the matter.

ADDIS ABABA: 13 COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES EXECUTED

LD241815Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Revolutionary measures have been taken against 13 counterrevolutionary individuals in (Yelu) District of Shawa Region. The counterrevolutionaries have been touring various districts by night, harassing the peasants, looting their property and cattle and committing other antipeople activities. They were also caught redhanded while gunrunning for reactionaries who are in hiding in opposition to the popular revolution.

Meanwhile, seven members and agents of the self-styled EPRP [Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Party] have been put under control in a 5-day track-down operation mounted recently by farmers in (Kondalite) District, Shawa Region. A notorious counterrevolutionary was killed during the operation.

ADDIS ABABA RESIDENTS ARREST 269 EPRP MEMBERS

LD241920Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] In a search conducted in the 2 and 7 urban dwellers association of higher-16, residents of the higher-5 urban dwellers association, together with men in uniform, today apprehended 269 counterrevolutionaries with their weapons in Addis Ababa. Those detained include hired killers of the Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Party, EPRP, hired killers and counterrevolutionary propagadists. They were captured with 1 Kalashinkov assault rifle, 8 nonautomatic rifles, 21 pistols, 464 rounds of ammunition, 20 knives, 5 military uniforms, subversive pamphlets and EPRP seals.

SPOKESMAN DENIES CUBANS CAPTURED IN FIGHTING

PA251353Y Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Rome, Jan 25 (AFP)--An Ethiopian Embassy spokesman here today denied Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF) claims to have captured Cubans fighting alongside Ethiopians in the Harar region. He said the Babile area 35 kms (20 miles) east of Harar, where the front said the fighting occurred, was one of the calmest in Ethiopia, and there were no Somalis there.

He added: "No foreign military, Cuban, Soviet or other, is (fighting) alongside Ethiopian forces charged with repelling the Somali aggressors. It is impossible for the latter to have made prisoners of Cubans who do not exist." The spokesman said his news came from Addis Ababa early today, and that the report on Cuban prisoners was another example of Somali propagandist lies. (The WSLF report came in its bulletin DANAB which said Cuban troops were captured in fighting around Harar which erupted a few days ago. On Monday, the WSLF said its forces had liberated the town of Babile.)

'LEADING COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY' KILLED BY FARMERS

LD251202Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Several members of the fascist Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party and propagandists were detained in the (Kondaltiti) Subdistrict of (Haykoch) and (Butta Jira) districts in Shawa Region in a search campaign conducted by farmers from 13 to 18 January to liquidate counterrevolutionaries. One leading counterrevolutionary was killed during the campaign.

The houses and property of (Ejeta Chiru), (Aberra Idi) and Urga Ouga), who are still in hiding, were confiscated.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO REPORTS CUBANS CAPTURED IN HARAR

LD251342Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The gallant freedom fighters of the Western Somalia Liberation Front [WSLF] captured Cuban soliders during the recent joint attack mounted against Harar and the surrounding areas by the Abyssinians, Russians, Cubans and their allies. Other members of the allied troops were killed. This was reported this morning by DANAB, the official bulletin of the liberation fronts.

The paper added that the joint attack, in which 30 war planes took part, was still continuing in and around Harar but the freedom fighters had the upper hand in the battle. The paper went on to say that during the battle, which started on Sunday afternoon and in which the freedom fighters captured the towns of Babile and Fayambiro, the WSLF freedom fighters inflicted heavy casualties and losses on the enemy forces.

DANAB said that the freedom forces were fighting with complete confidence and firm resolve. They had the upper hand in every encounter with the enemy forces and were gaining victory after victory.

AFP Report

PA251234Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1037 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mogadiscio, 25 Jan (AFP)--The Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF) announced here today that a "certain number" of Cuban soldiers who were fighting along with the Ethiopians have been captured and another "good number" of them died in battle. According to DANAB, the WSLF news bulletin, the Cuban soldiers were captured during fighting which took place near Harar a few days ago.

On Monday, the WSLF announced that it had repelled a massive air and land attack and had liberated the towns of Babila, 35 km east of Harar, and Fayambiro, 40 km northeast of Harar. A "good number" of Cuban soldiers were killed in these confrontations that began on Sunday, DANAB said today.

The bulletin added that over 30 F-5 and MIG fighter planes were used by the "colonialist troops and their accomplices." It concluded by saying that hand-to-hand combat continues to take place in Harar.

PRESIDENT SIAD RETURNS FROM MIDDLE EAST TRIP

LD241948Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] secretary general and Somali Democratic Republic president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, and the delegation which he led, returned home this afternoon after visiting Saudi Arabia, the YAR and Jordan.

On arrival at Mogadiscio airport Challe Siad was met by the three vice presidents--Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar, Challe Maj Gen Hussein Culmie Afrah and Challe Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokar--Challe Brig Gen Ahmad Sulayman Abdulle, SRSP Central Committee members and senior government officials.

Addressing SONNA and Radio Mogadiscio reports at the presidency, Challe Siad extended greetings to the entire Somali people, wherever they are. He told reporters that the purpose of his visit to those countries had been to discuss matters of mutual interest and current problems in the Horn of Africa, as well as to exchange views with their leaders. Challe Siad said his talks with these leaders ended in success and understanding.

Commenting on the implementation of the Taiz conference resolution and the security of the Red Sea, the president said he had held talks with the YAR leaders on ways to safeguard peace and stability in the Red Sea region, adding that the two sides had identical views on the issues.

Turning to the current situation in the Horn of Africa, Challe Siad said the SDR had never desired to create chaos in Africa, and particularly not in the Horn of Africa, but had repeatedly called on the peace-loving nations and those nations bordering the Red Sea to give careful consideration to the current situation in the Horn of Africa in order to determine who was responsible for it, and also to find a solution to it.

Commenting on the Middle East issue, Challe Siad said he had discussed with the leaders of Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the YAR ways of finding a solution. He agreed with them that inter-Arab differences should be solved first and that they should work jointly to find a solution to the problem.

The SDR president accused the colonial regime in Addis Ababa and its allies of trying to involve the SDR in the conflict between the regime and the people fighting for their freedom. Challe Siad called on the revolutionary Somali people to defend their country and to show the entire world--and particularly those with aggressive designs--that they were capable of defending their country. He called on them to prepare a suitable reply to anyone trying to interfere with their sovereignty.

FRG EMBASSY SAYS LOAN TO SOMALIA NOT FOR ARMS

LD241250Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Federal West Germany [as heard] officials in Nairobi have made it clear that 92.5 million shilling credit aid to Somalia was not meant for buying weapons, contrary to reports from certain news agencies.

A press release from the German Embassy stated today that the federal minister for economic cooperation has declared that the agreement between the two governments and a concluded loan agreement did not contain specific stipulations for the use of the loan.

The statement said that in the government's agreement it is stated that this loan would be used for economic and social development in Somalia. Both governments, according to the release, expressed their desire to strengthen their friendly relations by a fruitful cooperation. The statement said the Somali Government has also confirmed through its official news agency, SONNA, that the credit would be used for development projects in the country.

UGANDA

ORIS ASSURES KENYAN MINISTER OF GOOD RELATIONS

LD241216Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign affairs, Col Juma Oris, has assured the visiting Kenyan assistant minister of foreign affairs, Mr Peter Kenyatta, that Uganda is his second home and he is among friends and brothers and sisters.

Colonel Oris, who also holds the portfolios of minister of information and broadcasting and land and water resources, was welcoming Mr Kenyatta at a dinner organized by the Urganda-Arab Friendship Society at the Imperial Hotel.

Mr Kenyatta is in Uganda to attend the seventh anniversary celebrations of the military administration as a guest of the Uganda-Arab Friendship Society. He is the chairman of the Kenyan-Arab Friendship Society.

Recalling his meeting with Mr Kenyatta at the [word indistinct] Arab summit in Cairo last year, Colonel Oris said since then the Kenyan-Ugandan relations have grown stronger, and Mr Kenyatta's visit helps to strengthen further these relations. Colonel Oris said that relations between Kenya and Uganda have been really good because Kenya, under the able leadership of Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, continues to assist Uganda in the importation and export of her goods passing through Kenya. The minister paid tribute to Mr Peter Kenyatta for his role in strengthening Afro-Arab solidarity, adding that this will also go a long way to strengthen relations between Kenya and Uganda.

In reply, Mr Kenyatta said that he was pleased to be among friends in Uganda. Mr Kenyatta recalled that Kenya and Uganda have been good friends for many years, and his father, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, who has visited Uganda many times before, still has the same feelings for Uganda.

He assured his counterpart that Kenya will always take care of Uganda's goods passing through Kenya to and from the Kilindini harbor. Mr Kenyatta said his visit to Uganda is closely linked to the achievements of Uganda's businessmen. He recalled that when Life President Amin took over he was invited to come and advise the businessmen on how to run their newly acquired businesses and hoped that they benefitted from his advice.

Mr Kenyatta conveyed Mzee Jomo Kenyatta's best wishes to the people of Uganda in achieving all that they fought for during the colonial times and to enjoy the fruits of uhuru. He disclosed that just before coming to Uganda, his father assured him that Kenya and Uganda are to (?remain) brothers and friendly, and that whatever Uganda needs from Kenya she is ready to provide.

Speaking about Afro-Arab relations, Mr Kenyatta said that the Arab world is not new to Africa because they have had long standing connections. He cautioned Arabs and Africans against some foreign ideologies being brought to developing countries. He said Africans and Arabs are historically the common sufferers through colonial exploitation. He thanked the Arab League ambassador resident in Nairobi, Mr (Naim Qaddam), for huge efforts in creating Arab friendship societies in East Africa and hoped that he would form more of such societies elsewhere in Africa.

Earlier, the chairman of the Uganda-Arab Friendship Society, Mr (Amir Mahmud), had welcomed Mr Kenyatta to Uganda on behalf of the society. He said the aim of the society is to promote friendship between Ugandans and Arabs, and thereby to strengthen Afro-Arab solidarity. Mr (Mahmud) said Afro-Arab relations are the historical root which has been growing from strength to strength for centuries.

Mr Kenyatta proposed a toast to the health of President Amin and the entire people of Uganda. Colonel Oris reciprocated by toasting to health and prosperity of Mzee Jomo Kenyatta and the people of Kenya.

Kenyatta Meets Amin

LD242022Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Life President Amin has received the visiting Kenyan assistant minister for foreign affairs, Mr Peter Kenyatta, MP, and his delegation. The meeting took place at the Nile Mansion and was attended by the minister of foreign affairs, also holding the portfolios of the ministers of information and broadcasting and land and water resources, Col Juma Oris.

Mr Peter Kenyatta brought to the life president a special message from President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, and the contents of the message were not disclosed. The life president first met Mr Kenyatta and his delegation and later on met him alone confidentially.

Mr Kenyatta and his delegation are visiting Uganda at the invitation of the Uganda-Arab Friendship Society. President Amin was very happy to receive him in Uganda and told him to feel at home because Uganda is his second home. He was happy with Mr Kenyatta's frankness during the meeting and assured him that it is his intention and that of the government to strengthen further the relationship and cooperation existing between Uganda and Kenya. It is also his intention to strengthen the relationship between him and Mzee Kenyatta and all the people of Kenya and Uganda.

Life President Amin told Mr Kenyatta that the people spoiling the relationship between Uganda and Kenya are the exiles, who are highway robbers and go on misinforming the public in Kenya about Uganda. He said those exiles are the ones spoiling the relationship and good understanding between the two countries. He reiterated that this year he wants peace and reconciliation and excellent relations with Kenya. He also wants trade relations between Uganda and Kenya to return to normal this year.

The president said he is against (?rumors) and advised the people of Kenya that if they want to know anything they should come to Uganda to find out the truth themselves instead of relying on false information from exiles. He hoped Mr Kenyatta would see what is going on and pass on correct information to the people of Kenya. The life president asked Mr Kenyatta to pass on his best wishes and greetings to Mzee Kenyatta and all the people of Kenya.

NIGERIA

CUBA, NIGERIA TO EXPLORE ECONOMIC COOPERATION

LD250445Y Lagos International Service in English 1830 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Nigeria and Cuba have agreed to explore areas of economic cooperation. The federal commissioner for economic development, Dr Ononiyi Adewoye, told the Cuban ambassador to Nigeria that such cooperation was necessary in the interests of the developing countries.

Dr Adewoye enumerated possible areas of cooperation. These included fisheries, low cost housing and sugar production and manufacturing. The ambassador, Mr Alipio Zorilla, called for an early conclusion of a technical agreement between Nigeria and Cuba.

ANGOLA

HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

LD241538Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja has left Luanda for Maputo after a 4-day visit to Angola, during which he held talks with President Neto and Prime Minister Lopo do Nascimento.

"During the visit the Hungarian delegation held talks with an Angolan delegation headed by Comrade Paulo Jorge, minister of foreign affairs, during which the development of bilateral relations was discussed. The talks centered on the political situation in Africa. The two sides also touched on the problems in the Middle East, the situation in the Horn of Africa, disarmament and detente. During the talks it emerged that the positions of the two sides on international issues were identical and that our two countries have common objectives and stances, Comrade Frigyes Puja stated."

Budapest Cites Communique

LD242318Y Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] The leader of Hungarian diplomacy has been in Angola. A joint communique published on Frigyes Puja's talks in Luanda emphasizes that Hungary, in line with its capabilities, will continue to assist Angola's country-building efforts. The document says that as a result of the aggressive policies of imperialist forces, a grave situation has arisen in certain regions of Africa--a situation which endangers peace not only in the continent but in the whole world. Frigyes Puja, minister of foreign affairs, has invited Paulo Teixeira Jorge, leader of Angolan diplomacy, to visit Hungary.

MOZAMBIQUE

HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN MAPUTO

LD242110Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja and his delegation arrived in Maputo this afternoon for 5 days of talks with the Mozambique authorities on ways to strengthen and develop friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

On arrival at Mavalane Airport, the head of the Hungarian diplomatic service was met by Joaquim Chissano, our foreign minister, other officials from that ministry and by the Hungarian ambassador in Maputo.

Frigyes Puja told the news media that he was returning the visit of his counterpart, Joaquim Chissano, to his country, and to exchange views on international affairs and bilateral relations.

Minister Joaquim Chissano will give a dinner in honor of his Hungarian counterpart this evening.

While in Mozambique the Hungarian delegation will visit President Samora Machel and tour educational establishments, factories and a village commune.

RHODESIA

JOHANNESBURG: SETTLEMENT TALKS NEAR AGREEMENT

LD250838Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Rhodesian prime minister, Mr Smith, has held a secret unscheduled meeting in Salisbury with the three internally based black leaders involving the present settlement talks. The meeting, lasting about an hour, came as both sides appeared to be on the verge of agreement on the key question of constitutional safeguards for the country's 268,000 whites under majority rule.

Unconfirmed reports circulating [word indistinct] say there may be an announcement on the talks this morning. Mr Smith is understood to have provisionally scheduled a news conference for the morning. Last night no comment was available from government and black sides on the meeting which followed a scheduled round of talks lasting about an hour in the afternoon.

AFP Report

PA251245Y Paris AFP in French 1105 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpt] Salisbury, 25 Jan--It was learned on Wednesday in the Rhodesian capital that an agreement in principle concluded at the end of internal negotiations in Salisbury could be announced during the day by Prime Minister Ian Smith.

In this regard, Smith is expected to hold a news conference on Wednesday afternoon, during which he will reportedly announce that an agreement in principle has been reached with the three moderate nationalist leaders. In addition, it was learned that the delegations participating in the Salisbury talks may meet again on Wednesday morning, undoubtedly to give the final touch to the agreement.

Sithole Denies Stalling

LD242140Y Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Text] One of the Rhodesian leaders negotiating at the Downing House settlement talks, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, says he has verbal as well as written evidence that the terrorist war would end with the achievement of an acceptable settlement. He defended himself against accusations that he had been deliberately stalling the settlement talks in order to bolster his position politically. The ZAPU leader, Senator Chief Chirau, said earlier that the talks should go ahead without Mr Sithole if he should continue to delay the talks.

SOUTH AFRICA

WESTERN AMBASSADORS MEET OFFICIALS ON NAMIBIA

LD241242Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1000 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Cape Town--Ambassadors from the five Western UN Security Council countries yesterday held their second meeting in two days with the South African Government on South West Africa/Namibia, but declined to reveal details of their discussions.

The 15-minute meeting with the secretary of foreign affairs, Mr Brand Fourie, followed talks the five ambassadors had on Sunday night with the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha.

The U.S. ambassador and spokesman for the five, Mr William Bowdler, confirmed the meeting had taken place but declined to say whether or not they had received any answer to a proposal put out by Mr Botha yesterday concerning a meeting in New York next month.

"It was another meeting in a series of continuing discussions," Mr Bowdler told SAPA as the ambassador left the Verwoer Building here.

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS ANGOLAN ARMY DESERTERS

LD241826Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Large numbers of the Angolan Government's MPLA forces are reported to be deserting from military bases because they have not been receiving supplies. Reports reaching Rundu in northern South-West Africa say there is considerable dissatisfaction among MPLA forces because of the circumstances under which they must fight. Some MPLA troops have defected to the opposing UNITA movement and at least 10 Angolans have fled across the border into South-West Africa.

BRIEFS

ANGOLA ATTENDS DAKAR MEETING--The 3-day ministerial meeting of West and East Africa on the sea transport issue will open in Dakar on 17 January. Angola will be represented by Deputy Transport Minister Julio de Almeida, who left for Dakar today. [Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 16 Jan 78 LD/EA]

CONGO YOUTH IN ZAIRE--A delegation from the Central Committee of the Union of Congolese Socialist Youth [UJSC] led by its first secretary, Comrade Jean-Pierre Ngombe, crossed the Congo River to Kinshasa this morning. The UJSC officials have gone to the Zairian capital in response to an invitation from their counterparts from the JMPR [youth wing of the Popular Movement for the Revolution]. Comrade Jean-Pierre Ngombe and his delegation will spend 4 days in Zaire to strengthen the fraternal links binding the two youth movements. [Text] [Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1215 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD]

GDR GOODS TO ETHIOPIA--The first consignment of solidarity goods from the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions of the GDR have been delivered to the All-Ethiopia Trade Union. Solidarity goods, amounting to a total of 4.5 million birr-worth of medicines, clothing, blankets and other essential items, were wholly financed by the solidarity fund of the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions. Handing over the gift, Comrade (Kurt Wann), member of the Presidium and secretary general of the GDR trade union confederation, said that all organized workers of the GDR stand in solidarity by the side of their Ethiopian class brothers. [Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA]

KOREAN DELEGATION IN GHANA--Accra, Jan 17 GNA--A five-member South Korean trade delegation arrived here last night for talks on promotion of trade between Ghana and South Korea. A spokesman for the delegation said the talks with Ghanaian Government officials would center on joint ventures in the import, export, industrial and tourist fields. A two-member delegation from South Korea visited Ghana last year and held discussions with government officials on bilateral relations. [Text] [Accra GNA in English 1640 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD]

PRC AID FOR GHANA--Accra, 17 Jan GNA--The first consignment of equipment ordered by the Ghana irrigation commission from China for large scale production of rice on a commercial basis is expected soon in the country. This was disclosed here today by the Chinese ambassador to Ghana, Mr Yang Ko-ming during a call on Ghana's commissioner for agriculture, Col S.M. Akwagyiram. [as received] Mr Ko-ming told the commissioner that the [word indistinct] of the project at Afife in the Volta region had been completed by a team of Chinese experts which undertook feasibility studies on the project last year. An advance party of the experts was expected in the country early March, the ambassador said. Mr Ko-ming, who has been in Ghana since 1974, suggested exchange of visits by agricultural experts between the two countries. [Text] [Accra GNA in English 1635 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD]

MOZAMBIQUE-TANZANIAN AGREEMENT--The Tanzanian delegation, led by Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa, returned home after talks with a Mozambique government delegation. The talks, which began last Thursday, were chaired by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano and ended in the signing of an agreement between Mozambique and Tanzania providing for the establishment of a foreign relations center in Tanzania for the training of diplomats of the two countries. Immediately before leaving, Benjamin Mkapa told the news media that he was satisfied with the talks held by the delegations of our two governments. He added that truly concrete foundations had been laid for the implementation of the decisions taken. He went on to say he was convinced that the foreign relations center would become operational within a few months at the former Mozambique institute in Tanzania. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD/EA]

MAPUTO PROVINCE SHORTAGES--Officials in charge of the districts of Maputo, Marracuene, Manhica, (Matutuine), Magude. Moamba, Namaacha and Matola met yesterday under the chairmanship of the governor of Maputo Province, Jose Moiane, to discuss the growing problem of waiting lines. It was felt that the people's stores should reactivate their supply network to cafeterias throughout those districts which do not yet have regular assistance, and that people's stores should set up new supply units near Maputo Province. During the meeting it was made clear that most traders do not take up their full quotas--of sugar, for example--in order to create shortages. The meeting also agreed on the need for a census of the population of Maputo Province with a view to better the planning of supplies. [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD/EA]

MOZAMBIQUE FIRMS SEIZED--Yesterday in Maputo the (Cofel) and (Comel) firms--the Portuguese and Mozambique ironware companies, respectively--were placed under government control for having been involved in sabotage of our economy. The decision was announced at a general meeting of the workers of both firms yesterday chaired by officials from the national supply commission. It is known that the administrator of (Cofel) designated one of his sons as representative in Portugal, at the same time negotiating with supply firms to debit an extra 10 percent to all imports for Mozambique. The income resulting from the overcharging was deposited in Portugal, in the name of the said administrator, who had already briefed his son in this respect. This explains why the (Cofel) firm, having spent 300,951 contos on imports last year as against 24,088 contos in 1976, has no raw materials, according to the workers of both firms. The (Cofel) and (Comel) firms are basically engaged in the import and selling of the majority of ferrous and civil construction materials used in our country. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD/EA]

NIGERIAN-ROMANIAN AGREEMENT--The Nigerian Government has approved the text of an air services agreement to be signed between this country and the Socialist Republic of Romania. The agreement provides that a designated airline of either country could operate a weekly flight between Lagos and Bucharest. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD]

DPRK-NIGERIAN COOPERATION--The Peoples Democratic Republic of Korea has agreed to cooperate with Nigeria in the development of her water resources. This was disclosed in Lagos by the federal commissioner for economic development, Dr Ononiyi Adewoye, while discussing with the leader of the visiting economic delegation from Korea. The commissioner said that the progress made by the Koreans in the agricultural and water resources fields could be of great assistance to Nigeria's "Operation Feed the Nation" campaign. Replying, the leader of the delegation, Mr (J. Chang-Hwon) said that his country would cooperate with the federal government in the transfer of technology. Mr (Hwon) explained that his country's knowhow in the field of agriculture would be extended to all friendly countries. The placement of Nigerian students in Korean institutes of higher learning was also discussed. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD]

AMBASSADORS TO NIGERIA--Three ambassadors to Nigeria today presented their letters of credence to the head of state, Lt Gen Olusegun Obasanjo. They are: the ambassador for Argentina, Ivan A. V. Morel; the ambassador for Saudi Arabia, Shaykh (Muhammad Hasan Saki), and the first Angolan ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Miguel Gaspar Fernandes Neto. Accepting their letters, the head of state informed the ambassadors that they had come to the country at a crucial stage in her economic and political development. The head of state told the ambassadors that it was the wish of the federal military government to broaden the areas of cooperation between Nigeria and their countries. [Lagos International Service in English 1830 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD]

NEW NIGERIAN PORT--In Nigeria the federal military government has earmarked 84 million naira for the development of the new Warri port. The port, which is still under construction, will have a capacity for six standard berths. This was announced by the federal commissioner for transport, Col Mohamed Magoro, during discussions with the (?emir) of Warri, (Eba Orejewa II). Colonel Magoro explained that the construction of the port had been afforded priority because of its importance to the development of the proposed iron and steel complex at (Hajel Fijah) in Kwara State. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 1830 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD]

NEW NIGERIAN PASSPORTS--New passports have been introduced in Nigeria to replace the existing ones. Presenting specimen copies of the passports to newsmen in Lagos today, the commissioner for external affairs, Brig Joseph Garba, said that the introduction was to forestall forgery. He said that the new passports will be operative as from next month. The commissioner also said that the existing ones would remain valid until they were either expired or exhausted. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD]

NIGERIAN STUDENTS ABROAD--In Nigeria 283 students have been selected to study in various technical institutions in Italy and Bulgaria. This is under a bilateral agreement between Nigeria and the two countries. Eighty-three of the students are expected to report in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, on the 24th of this month. The first set of Nigerian students left for that country in December last year. The remaining 200 students are due to leave for Rome next (?month). [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD]

FRG AID FOR SOMALIA--The Somali Democratic Republic and the FRG yesterday signed in Mogadiscio an economic agreement worth 70 million Somali shillings. The agreement was signed by Finance Minister Muhammad Yusuf Wayrah, on behalf of Somalia, and by a visiting bank official on behalf of the FRG. The money will be used to finance development projects in Somalia. [Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA]

TANZANIAN POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS--Tanzania has made arrangements to set up its own posts and telecommunications corporation. Explaining this in Dar es Salaam today, a spokesman of the Ministry of Communications and Transport said Tanzania had been compelled to set up the corporation following the dissolution of the East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation. He added that the new corporation, which will be formed soon, has been designed to provide special services for cables to be dispatched abroad. [Text] [Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA]

UGANDAN ENVOY TO JAPAN--President Amin has appointed (Twili Bigombe) Uganda's ambassador to Japan, where he has been charge d'affaires since 1973. [Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 16 Jan 78 LD/EA]

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